

PRINCIPAL FOREST TECHNICIAN

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, serves as a staff specialist engaged in assisting program managers and foresters in planning and carrying out forestry operations of moderate difficulty; forestry assignments are of the type that may be unfamiliar and unprecedented; performs related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Assists foresters in charge and program managers in establishing measures for the conservation, protection and orderly use of forest and woodland resources of the Navajo Nation; plans and coordinates assigned field projects utilizing seasoned judgment and oversees the accomplishment of the assigned activity; some technicians at this level may make onsite decisions where prescribed plans deviate and/or do not agree with field observations; coordinates work activity with other field projects engaged in similar forestry and natural resource management functions.

Devises ways of accomplishing prescribed plans and objectives; develops, modifies, and/or improves non-controversial operating plans, where the presence of a senior forester may not be necessary; improves or simplifies established standards; explains and demonstrates principles and techniques of forest culture and woodland improvement; conducts training programs; maintains a forest fire danger weather station; assists in fire prevention program; assists in the maintenance of property and monuments; repairs and maintains assigned motor vehicles and equipment.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of laws and regulations applicable to the Navajo Nation's forestlands particularly as they involve forest protection practices and procedures.

Knowledge of practical forestry methods.

Knowledge of forestry, nursery or orchard management programs.

Knowledge of fire prevention methods and techniques.

Skill in the use of special tools and equipment common to the forestry profession.

Skill in communicating effectively, acting promptly and use of good judgment in emergencies, deals tactfully with and inspires public confidence while enforcing rules and regulations.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work is performed both indoors and outdoors with exposure to a variety of adverse weather conditions. Manual dexterity in the operation of tools and the ability to lift objects weighing up to 100 lbs. is required. Work may at times be strenuous, requiring continuous physical effort for long periods.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A high school diploma or GED; and four (4) years of increasingly responsible experience in forest management, protection and development; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the capabilities to perform the described duties.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, some incumbents of the class may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.